

Weather Forecast:

Cloudy Tonight and Sunday

The Washington Times

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WASHINGTON, SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 13, 1915.

PRICE ONE CENT.

HOME EDITION

GAS CO. PLANS TO ELIMINATE ITS SYSTEM OF CASH DEPOSITS

Old Subscribers Will Get Refund Under New Arrangement Now Being Worked Out by Concern.

Funds of \$250,000, Held at 4 Per Cent, Will Be Reduced Because of Floating Population.

With a view to promoting better feeling from its customers, and to furthering their interests, the Washington Gas Light Company is endeavoring to eliminate as far as possible the system of deposits required of subscribers.

That the custom cannot be entirely abolished without exposing the company to large losses, the officials of the corporation say, has been proven by the experience not only of the Washington company, but the gas manufacturing concerns of other large cities. The plans now being evolved, however, aim to reduce the deposits to a minimum.

The gas company has never required a deposit from a subscriber who owns the premises for which the gas is furnished, nor has it made such a demand in instances where the owner of the property would guarantee the payment of the tenant's bill.

The new system has already been developed to the point where the company no longer asks deposits from old customers whose records for two years show prompt payment of bills, or from new customers who can establish credit through bank, or commercial references.

The company is now working on plans for the refunding of a large part of the deposits which are already in hand where the customer's record has been satisfactory.

At present the company has on its books approximately \$250,000 in deposits. For this money which it makes use of in its operations it pays 4 per cent. (Continued on Second Page.)

WHEAT TAKES DROP; WILD SCENES IN PIT

May Variety Falls 9 Cents to \$1.501-2, July to \$1.287-8. Partial Recovery.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12.—The bottom dropped out of the wheat market for a time today. At 11 o'clock the price had fallen to \$1.50 1/4 per bushel for May wheat. This was a loss of 9 cents per bushel under Thursday's close. July wheat also fell with a thud to lower levels than have been noted in weeks. When the market opened July wheat was 1 cent lower per bushel than at Thursday's close. At 11 o'clock there was a recession of 3/4 points to \$1.28 1/2. At 11:15 there was a partial recovery in the market. May wheat went back to \$1.50 1/4 and July to \$1.28 1/2. The biggest drop was between 10:30 and 11 o'clock, when prices dropped from \$1.50 1/4 to \$1.50 1/4 and \$1.28 1/2 to \$1.28 1/2. A lot of stop-loss orders were responsible for the sensational break, which was accompanied by wild scenes in the pit. Another factor was reports that melting of the snow in the wheat fields of the West show the new crop to be in prime condition.

Skipper Arrested for Cruelty to His Crew

Navigation Officer A. L. Dryden, of the motorboat Tarragon, acting as special Federal deputy marshal, has arrested Capt. George Johnson, of the sloop Virginia D. Mayne, charged with cruelty to members of his crew. Secretary of Commerce Redfield was advised today.

The Mayne was overhauled by the Tarragon off Colonial Beach, Va., and left at anchor, while Johnson was taken to Baltimore and locked up.

Atlantic Coast Line, "The Standard Railroad of the South" 4 Ltd. trains daily to Florida. 198 New York Ave. n.w. -Advt.

Girl Is Charged With Abducting Nephews; Faces Trial Next Week

Miss Daisy Clifford, Who Was Arrested After Thrilling Motor Race, Is Accused of Attempting Flight With Two Little Children, in Custody of Brother-in-Law.

Miss Daisy Clifford, who was arrested after a thrilling race between a taxicab and an automobile, today faces the charge of abducting John D. Kamb, four, and Francis D. Kamb, three, children of her sister, Mrs. Julia Dolores Kamb, who recently sued her husband, John Kamb, for custody and maintenance of the boys.

The hearing of the case was set today in Police Court for next Wednesday.

CITES PROMISE OF CLOTHES.

Allegations on which the formal charge against Miss Clifford is based were to the effect that she induced Miss Florence Kamb, sister of the father of the children, to bring the boys to her suit in Wisconsin avenue, near Friendship Heights, Md., on the pretense that she had some clothes for them. The children had been in custody of the Kamb family at Cherrydale, Va.

Miss Kamb said today that she took the children in a taxicab to Miss Clifford's home, and that when she arrived there she noticed a large touring car in front of the house. When she and the two children alighted from the taxicab, she alleged that Miss Clifford seized the two boys and putting them into the automobile, drove rapidly away. Miss Kamb said that she went in pursuit of the automobile, which went down Wisconsin avenue bound cityward. In the chase she picked up Crossing Postman Naper who arrested Miss Clifford at Champlain street and Kalorama road, where the automobile was overtaken.

Samuel K. Upperman, who drove Miss Clifford's car, was arrested on a charge of violating the speed regulations. He furnished \$25 collateral for his appearance in court. He denies that he had knowledge of any attempt on the part of Miss Clifford to abduct the children. Mrs. Kamb filed a suit for maintenance in the District Supreme Court November 21, and asked for the custody of her children, setting forth in her petition that "the separation from them is well nigh killing her."

The petition states that the Kambs were married in Washington, July 22, 1904. It was further stated that in November last Mrs. Kamb went to Rochester, N. Y., and had her husband arrested on a charge of non-support, and that he was ordered to pay her alimony in the sum of \$6 a week.

Soon after the maintenance suit was filed in the court, Mrs. Kamb offered a reward of \$200 for information that would lead to the return of her children. At that time she was stopping at the Continental Hotel.

Senator Burton of Ohio offered in the Senate this afternoon two important resolutions which have an intimate bearing on the ship purchase situation.

The resolutions are aimed at a revelation of the facts as to various intimations, rumors, and allegations which have been floating around for weeks that certain New York interests are back of the movement to unload on the Government a number of interned German ships.

One of Senator Burton's resolutions provides for an investigation by a committee of five Senators, with power to compel production of books and papers and to summon witnesses, into questions which are enumerated. These questions are whether any individual, firm, or corporation in the United States has made loans to any persons or concern owning interned ships; whether any individual, firm, or corporation in the United States has obtained options on any such ships; and whether any person who may have obtained such options is connected with the Government of the United States.

Resolution of Inquiry. Senator Burton likewise introduced a resolution of inquiry addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury. It is a modification of his previous resolution calling on the Treasury for certain shipping information. It is broadened to include inquiry into the policy of the Government.

(Continued on Second Page.)

PROVIDE DESTROYERS TO CONVOY LUSITANIA

England Apprehensive as Two Liners Sail for New York. Americans on Board.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—Probably not since the days of ocean travel has there been such nation-wide interest displayed in anything marine as that which marked today's sailings from Liverpool. Scheduled to sail were the Lusitania and the St. Paul for New York from Liverpool and a number of smaller craft for other destinations.

While there was no reason to believe these vessels would be interfered with, Englishmen generally realized there was always the possibility of a German submarine attempt.

Although admiralty officials were silent on the subject, there was a general belief that the fleet commander had provided an escort of big and fast destroyers for both the Lusitania and St. Paul.

A dispatch from Dunkirk, after mentioning the departure of the air fleet, says that the British flyers forestalled and frustrated a contemplated raid of German Taubers over Dunkirk.

A dispatch to the Chronicle from an unnamed point on the east coast describes the departure of the air fleet as occurring shortly after daylight. The aircraft flew in perfect order, in squadrons, it is said, resembling a flock of huge birds. They flew comparatively high to avoid the mist which overhung the sea inshore at dawn and disappeared in an easterly direction. It is thought they must, at the speed they were making, have reached the coast.

(Continued on Second Page.)

Fumes Vex All At White House

Noxious Spray, Used on Trees in Yard, Causes Violations of Third Commandment.

Sulphurous fumes swirled through the White House today. Mephistophiles could not have wished for a more congenial atmosphere. There were violations of the Third Commandment.

And all because the forestry squad of the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds was spraying the trees on the White House lawn. Long lines of hose carried sulphur and lime from the tank wagon to the trees, but a brisk northerly wind blew it back to things that were not trees, including persons at work in the office.

It is stated that General von Hindenburg intimated the maneuvers in the White House today.

Motions to quash the indictments against J. William Henry and Benjamin Woodruff, members of the bankrupt brokerage firm of Lewis Johnson & Co., charged with embezzlement and larceny after trust, were submitted to Chief Justice Cavanaugh in Criminal Court today without argument.

Former Judge Daniel Thew Wright and J. Golden Donaldson appear for the two defendants.

BURTON WOULD PROBE RUMOR OF UNLOADING GERMAN SHIPS

Introduces Resolution Asking If Any Firm Seeks to Sell Any Interned Vessels to the United States.

Gore Attempts to Force Action in Senate But Burton Speech Blocks New Move Before Vote Can Be Taken.

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MORS INSANE, TO BE DEPORTED, IS CLAIM

Odd Fellows' Official Declares "Confession" Has Been Accepted as Maniac's Raving.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—Frederic Mors, who swore that he killed eight aged inmates of the German Odd Fellows' Home at Yonkers, will be declared insane and deported, officers of the Odd Fellows declared today.

Thomas McKnight, grand master of the State Lodge, said that he knew positively that there would be no grand jury indictment of Mors. He said that he had been assured by Westchester county authorities that Mors' confession had been accepted as insane ravings and that arrangements are being made to send the former orderly back to Australia.

Coroner Dunn refused to verify this statement today. He said that the investigation of Mors' allegations of wholesale murders in the home was continuing and that he hoped to have "some startling facts" to present to the hearing Monday when Mors is to repeat his story in public.

Senator Burton today adopted a resolution offered by Senator Borah of Idaho instructing the Secretary of Agriculture to report to the Senate on facts relating to the existence of a water-powder trust.

The resolution calls for information as to what water-powder sites are in the hands of private owners, what extent they are developed, what the private owners are doing, what extent they are developed, and what other information as to the existence of a combination to control water power.

Senator Borah said he was anxious to have the resolution so immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, as he understood the forest service had important information on the subject.

Imported *La Carolina* cherries, the choicest variety, small, round, aromatic. -Advt.

British Flyers, Jubilant, Plan New Strike at Cuxhaven Base



LONDON, Feb. 13.—The notable success of the great British aerial raid upon the German submarine bases at Zebruge, Ostend, and Blankenburgh by thirty-four aeroplanes and seaplanes, has encouraged the admiralty in its preparations to nullify the "war zone" order.

The next strike of the royal naval corps is expected to be at Cuxhaven and the naval bases in its neighborhood.

The raid was undertaken by Wing Commander Samson to break up preparations for the announced submarine blockade and was participated in by Flight Commander Claude Grahame-White and Squadron Commander John Cyril Porte, both of whom are popular figures in America.

Flight Commander Claude Grahame-White, who won the Statue of Liberty race in 1910, fell into the sea off Newport, but was rescued with his machine by a French gunboat, which towed both safely into Dunkirk.

Grahame-White married Miss Dorothy Taylor, of New York on his visit to America.

Zebruge has been bombarded by warships several times within the last few months, and the admiralty report, with serious damage resulting, but no such aerial attack has been made as at Habbesh, an Alsatian town a few miles from Muelhausen.

A report from Paris tells of French aeroplanes activity. Almost simultaneously, it appears, with the British success, five French aeroplanes raided a German aerial base at Habbesh, an Alsatian town a few miles from Muelhausen.

Block German Raid. A dispatch from Dunkirk, after mentioning the departure of the air fleet, says that the British flyers forestalled and frustrated a contemplated raid of German Taubers over Dunkirk.

A dispatch to the Chronicle from an unnamed point on the east coast describes the departure of the air fleet as occurring shortly after daylight. The aircraft flew in perfect order, in squadrons, it is said, resembling a flock of huge birds. They flew comparatively high to avoid the mist which overhung the sea inshore at dawn and disappeared in an easterly direction. It is thought they must, at the speed they were making, have reached the coast.

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GRAHAME-WHITE AND PORTE IN SQUADRON

Success of Raid on Submarine Base Prepares Way for Renewed Aerial Activity.

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RUSSIANS LED INTO TRAP.

The Russians have once again proven victims to General von Hindenburg's superb strategy. No attempt was made to halt their rapid advance, and the German forces continually fell back before them until the Russians became supremely confident. Then, when the conditions were ripe, the Germans struck from the front and both flanks, forcing a retreat so precipitate that the defeat was not a rout was due entirely to the newest development of the war, air scouting. The Russian aviators discovered the manner in which the German commander-in-chief was disposing his forces, and in order to prevent being completely surrounded, he was compelled to abandon an immediate withdrawal of the Russian army from German territory was ordered.

Fighting Under Kaiser's Eye. The fighting continues under the eye of the Kaiser, and the Germans are following up their advantage. Because of the enormous numbers of the Russians, it is believed that they will say another offensive movement almost immediately, but it is not believed they can hope for any general success.

Berlin, which has been very quiet of late, is celebrating today. When the news arrived yesterday and was posted in a short laconic bulletin, a school holiday was immediately proclaimed. Today flags are being flown everywhere, and there is hardly a house in the city that does not display pictures of the field marshal commanding in the east.

It is stated that General von Hindenburg intimated the maneuvers in the White House today.

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U. S. TO SUFFER IN WILHELMINA CASE; WARNING BY GERMANY

Bernstorff Says American Trade May Be Injured by Retaliatory Measures Unless Foodstuffs Are Freed.

Bryan Is Told Kaiser Will Not Stand for England's Plan to Starve Out Germany's Civil Population.

The German government warned the United States today that unless the British government releases the Wilhelmina with its cargo of foodstuffs, Germany will retaliate in a way that may seriously injure American commercial interests.

Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, conveyed this warning to both Secretary Bryan and Counselor Lansing and declared that it was to this country's interests to urge Great Britain to accept Germany's word that this food cargo will be used exclusively to feed Germany's civil population.

The Dep. told flatly stand for England's plan to starve out Germany's civil population, and the American Government was warned that the world may expect the strongest kind of retaliation.

May Injure U. S. Commerce. The ambassador hinted that American commerce might be shut off in the course of retaliation. While he agreed that release of the cargo would satisfy Germany, he suggested that the United States ought not to acquiesce in the seizure and that this Government ought to continue insistence on its position against allowing England to continue to hide behind the American flag. The seizure, he held, is arbitrary, in view of Germany's guarantee that the American food shipments will supply only the civil population.

Germany's word is understood, law in closing the North Sea, and it was hinted that Germany based her proposed retaliation on this and other alleged violations.

Not To Change U. S. Policy. Despite Ambassador von Bernstorff's warning, the State Department indicated that there will be no change of policy toward the Wilhelmina.

Before receiving the German warning, the State Department had asked Great Britain to postpone the price court proceedings until owners of the cargo have an opportunity to present complete evidence showing the cargo is not subject to seizure.

Germany Will Not Submit To the American Demand, Officials in Berlin Hint

BERLIN, Feb. 13 (via wireless).—It is admitted that the German foreign office considers the American protest protesting against the proposed submarine blockade has greatly complicated the international situation.

The imperial chancellor has gone over the outlines of the note with the foreign secretary. The position already assumed is that the American demand has greatly embarrassed the imperial government and that it will have to be made the subject of a cabinet council.

No reply will be made at present. It is understood that the text of the message has been communicated to the Kaiser, who is at the eastern front, and that the chancellor will leave at once to confer with him.

Although mentioning the possibility presented by this latest message sent by the United States, it is insisted in the highest official circles that it is not a question of Germany's honor, but of the Emperor and his advisers have agreed that England's commerce must be checked, and the blockade will be enforced commencing Thursday.

The text of the American protest is still withheld from the newspapers. It is understood that the government plans permitting a summary of it to be printed but that for the present, at least, the complete text will be withheld.

The officials who have knowledge of the text of the note frankly declare that they do not believe it tone "in savagery" and that the German officials generally insist that, inasmuch as England is "plainly trying her best to starve out Germany," including her civilian and non-combatant population, any act of retaliation will be justified. It is declared that recent assurance given to all neutrals that Germany will "protect all neutral shipping to the utmost of her power" is, in itself, an answer to the demands of the United States.

Although the suggestion has been made that Germany may reply to the United States by the way out of the difficulty is for the United States to use her influence



Above, at Left—CLAUDE GRAHAME-WHITE. At Right—LIEUT. JOHN CYRIL PORTE. Below—Map of region British aerial squadrons raided.

Russ Army Driven From German Soil

Berlin Celebrates Great Victory in East Prussia. Fighting Continues Under Eye of Kaiser, Whose Forces Follow Up Advantages Won in Mazurian Lakes Region.

By KARL H. VON WIEGAND.

BERLIN, Feb. 13 (via wireless).—Again all Germany rejoices and once more it is the "old man of the lakes" who has aroused the national spirit. As the news continues to arrive from the East Prussian front, it becomes more and more apparent that the Russians have again had their offensive completely crushed. They have been expelled from German territory, and their retreat is described by officers who are cognizant with the situation as "dangerously near a rout."

While the Germans are pursuing their late antagonists who a week ago were confident that they held all of East Prussia in their grasp, only the most meager details of the victory have been made public. But the general staff report places the number of prisoners as not less than 30,000, with many guns and machine guns and enormous quantities of war materials. In addition, it is declared the Russians had many of their crack first line forces, including the Siberian rifle corps, badly cut up.

The Russians have once again proven victims to General von Hindenburg's superb strategy. No attempt was made to halt their rapid advance, and the German forces continually fell back before them until the Russians became supremely confident. Then, when the conditions were ripe, the Germans struck from the front and both flanks, forcing a retreat so precipitate that the defeat was not a rout was due entirely to the newest development of the war, air scouting. The Russian aviators discovered the manner in which the German commander-in-chief was disposing his forces, and in order to prevent being completely surrounded, he was compelled to abandon an immediate withdrawal of the Russian army from German territory was ordered.

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St. Valentine Is Suffrage Patron

Adopted by Pennsylvania Women's Association for a Practical Purpose.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 13.—St. Valentine has been adopted by the Pennsylvania Women Suffrage Association as its patron saint for a practical purpose.

Every woman who believes in woman suffrage and who receives a valentine is expected to sign the donor to supplement his thoughtfulness by pledging to originate or the idea is Miss Mary Miller, of Harrisburg.

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